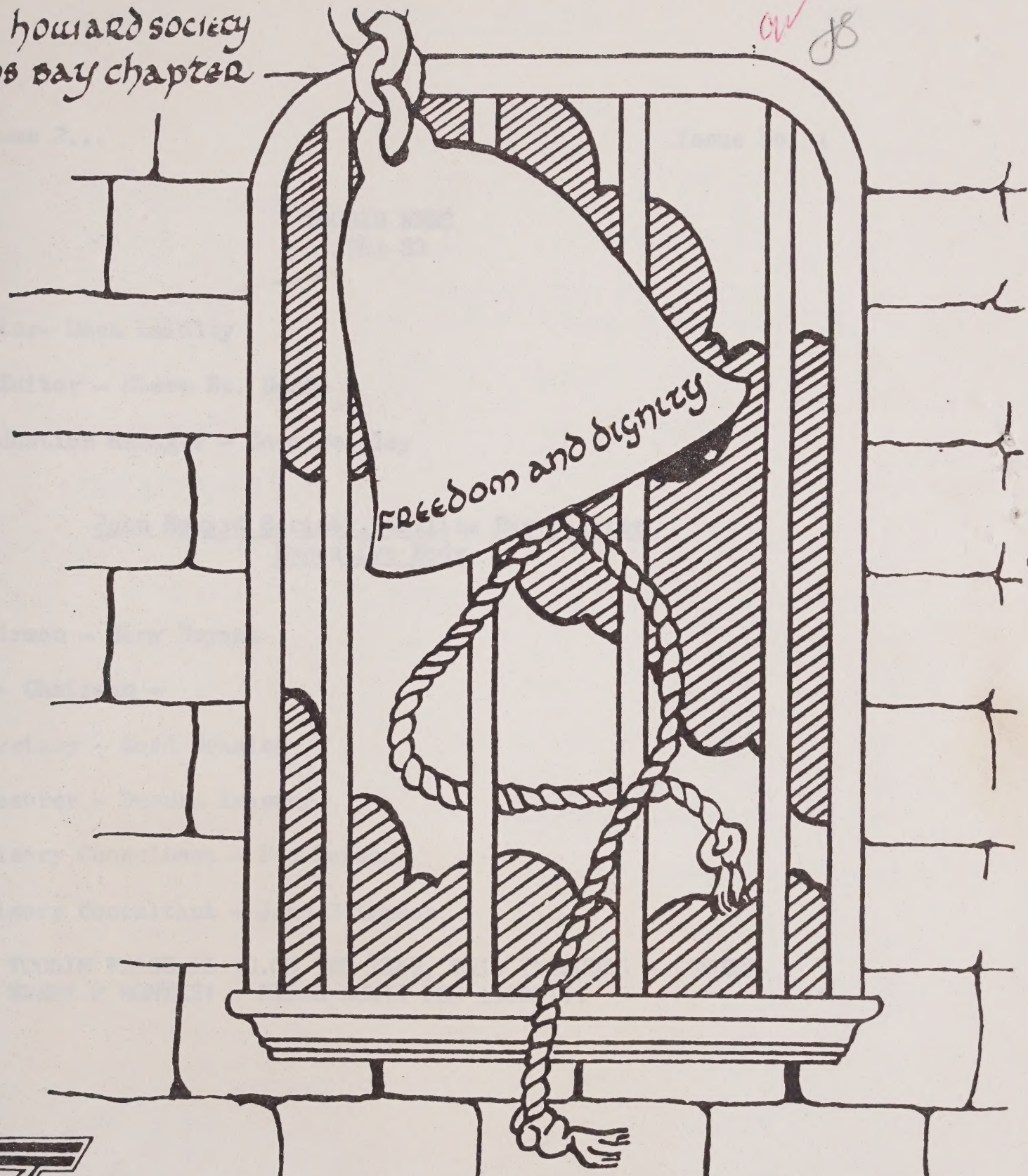


John Howard Society
Collins Bay Chapter

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Jocsin

NEW YEARS EDITION VOL #7
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Volume 2...

Issue No. 1

TOCSIN NEWS
1981-82

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Co-Editor - Steve St. Denis

Production Manager - Gord Beasley

John Howard Society, Collins Bay Chapter
Executive Body

Chairman - Gary Bryant

Co - Chairman -

Secretary - Gord Beasley

Treasurer - Dennis Kraemer

Advisory Consultant - Ron Lauzon

Advisory Consultant - John Stimpson

OUR TOCSIN PRICE IS \$8.00 PER YEAR, THIS INCLUDES 6 ISSUES-
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"FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR"

With 1982 now upon us, there is an old saying that goes well with the situation we now find ourselves in at this time. "Out With The Old, And In With The New". This could not have been better said if I had thought of it myself, because with the new year, we here at the Tocsin also have a completely new staff.

Our past editor, Gerry Colford has left us to start a new life for himself out on the street, and in doing so, has left a pair of shoes to be filled that will take alot of doing to fill as well as Gerry himself filled them. We here at the Tocsin wish Gerry all the best in all his endeavours outside these walls, and hope that we can do as fine a job as Gerry did with the Tocsin.

As stated, we have a new staff here at the Tocsin, and I feel that an introduction is in order. First off, as Editor we now have Dave Laidley, (me, smile!). As Co - Editor now we have Steve St. Denis, who I might add is doing a fine job in all aspects of the Tocsin. In the future you will be able to read many articles from Steve that should be of an intrest to all. We also have as our Production Manager, Gord Beasley, who I might add is also doing a tremendous job in assisisting the editorial staff in putting together this our first issue of the Tocsin for 1982. I don't know what we would do without Gord's constant deliverance of stamina, and moral support in our times of mass confusion now that we have lost Gerry Colford. But I'm sure with the help of everyone concerned, we will be able to deliver to you the public a news booklet worthy of it's name, "The Tocsin".

I personally would like to wish all of our subscribers all the best in the new year, and hope that we here can continue to notify you the public of all and any changes in the penal system, and of all the new and up - comming changes within the John Howard Society, Collins Bay Chapter.

By; Dave Laidley
Editor

"FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY"

Due to the ties between the John Howard Society, and the Tocsin here at Collins Bay, an introduction of the new and major changes is only appropriate at this time from the Chapter's executive.

Our past Chairman, Gerry Colford has left us, and is now out on a Day Parole. Hopefully Gerry will follow through with his involvement with the Toronto Branch of the John Howard Society. What can we say, we are going to miss you Gerry.

Our new Chairman is now Gary Bryant, we are looking forward to his innovative contributions to the group which will add to it's future progress.as a whole. Good Luck Gary.

Ron Lauzon has had to step down from his position as Co - Chairman to take part in the preparation of the anual Collins Bay "Special People's Olympiad" which I might add is a major task by itself. Fortunately, Ron has agreed to stay on with the executive in an advisory capacity.

Our former secretary, John Stimpson, who has done an exceptional job in the past has also stepped down from his position and will like Ron be on hand in an advisory capacity.

In conclusion, as for myself, Gord Beasley, I have taken over John's former position as Secretary. With some help from John, I hope to do as fine a job as he has done.

By; Gord Beasley
Secretary, J.H.S. C.B.I.

"TOCSIN"

It would appear the John Howard of Collins Bay has a new executive body.

My name is Gary Bryant, and i am the new chairman of the John Howard Society, Collins Bay Chapter. Gerry Colford has been released to a halfway house. (Good Luck Gerry!)

Other members of the executive body are; Gord Beasley as Secretary, Dennis Kraemer as Treasurer.

I think a thank you is in order to Gerry Colford who did one fine job as our Chairman while here at Collins Bay, and we do hope that always does well in the future.

I only hope that I can keep the ball rolling in the same manner that Gerry did while I hold this position.

Respectfully

Gary Bryant

Chairman J.H.S. C.B.I.

"THE JOHN HOWARD WOMENS GROUP"

Dear Tocsin Readers,

The Women's Group of the John Howard Society is looking for new members to expand our potential to develop long-range plans. One of these plans is to obtain and administer an apartment for the use of out of town visiting wives and girlfriends, for a small fee. (nothing is free anymore!). This would be to an advantage to the men, as well as the women because they would be able to have more visits with families if costs were not so high.

What we need to get this plan off the ground is more women committed to the group, who would be willing to be actively in making this plan a reality, and who would

volunteer some of their time to reduce expenses. The group is open to all female family members, so if a mother/sister would be interested in joining - Great!

The group meets every second week, Monday afternoons from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. at 99 York St. Group members offer each other support through the waiting period towards release, offer guidance with practical issues such as housing, getting on welfare, transportation, etc. and an opportunity to meet new friends.

If you are interested in joining or know someone who might, please let them know; for more information please write or call the John Howard Society of Kingston at 771 $\frac{1}{2}$ Montreal St., Kingston, Ontario. Telephone: at 542-7373.

In other words, the group is here to help new women coming into the community, and in order to do this, we need your help. Please contact us.

Sincerely,

Lynn Lott,
Group Member

Libby Clausen,
Family Services Worker

Sandra Ouellette,
Group Member

ED. Note: I might add that on behalf of the John Howard Collins Bay Chapter, that we have to hand it to Libby and the rest of the ladies out there who are trying to make our lives more comfortable inside these walls while we serve our time, keep up the great work ladies, we are all rooting for you here.

"SPECIAL TO TOCSIN"

Dear Editor,

Congradulations on your first anniversary!
I read each issue of Tocsin avidly. Its both a very enjoyable and informative magazine.

I certainly support your position on the Abolition Of Mandatory Supervision, and your criticisms of the New Pay Package. However, I hope you don't limit your focus to Prison Reform when everything about prisons and the reformist philosophy of the penal system seems to be a failure.

I'd like to see you promote community alternatives, life skill programs, and self help groups. Perhaps you can dig up some success of people who have been in conflict with the law. The public never has a glimpse of the guy or gal who "MAKES GOOD" through the regular media channels.

Finally, if you have anyone who keeps tabs on the press releases out of the Solicitor General's Office, I know alot of us would be interested. If we are to believe half of what is reported on Kaplan's idea of improvements in the Penitentiary System, someone hasn't done his homework!

Thanks for some great reading, I hope your second year's an even greater success!

Yvonne Schmtz

EDITORS NOTE: Alexandra Sellers is a free-lance writer based in Toronto. The opinions expressed here are not those of the Collins Bay Chapter, but are presented in the belief that a citizen's view of the Society is always of interest to us.

"A VIEW FROM AN OUTSIDER"

It was not hard to be violently angry about the John Howard conference I attended in Couchiching the first weekend of October, and about what it showed about the dead-end direction the Society seems unable to resist following.

The theme of the conference turned out to be "future trends in criminal justice", which to this outsider was like listening to a beached whale worry about water pollution. As I see it, the John Howard Society isn't going to be around for the future trends unless it does two important things; revitalize itself somehow, and get some money in the till.

There was no revitalizing at the weekend. From the key note address through to the wrap-up speech, with one exception, the conference was low-key, uninspiring, and diffuse. People spent their time talking about having conversations! Yes. Nobody even mentioned confrontation, and advisedly so: during the entire weekend, no issue was confronted. If prisoners are depending on this group to seriously challenge the government or the penal system of this country on their behalf, I am sorry to say it is not likely to happen.

The one exception, of course, was the panel of the con, and ex-con, and the honorary con that took place on Saturday night. For the first time, there was some energy in the room. Unfortunately, that energy had nowhere to go: five minutes later a pensive but nonetheless lifeless wrap-up speech closed the conference.

"A VIEW FROM AN OUTSIDER" cont.....

As for putting money in the till, well, it was no surprise after all this that at the Sunday morning board meeting your board decided not to decide whether or not to invest in the "Pallet Project". At that meeting, Neither of the two people who together conceived and developed it, was asked to speak about the project or allowed to answer the almost entirely critical and negative ideas that were aired. This observer, who had the same numbing experience of social workers as a child, is sorry to see that nothing has changed in the world of the self-styled caring and committed.

Did the John Howard Society get the kiss of death this weekend? In my opinion, it must have got that some time ago. What this weekend constituted was perhaps the whale's last chance to get back in the water. After this, if it survives, it becomes a kind of immobilized land animal. There are different varieties of death. But the whale didn't even try to get back in the water. It was too busy with those discussions on water pollution!

It may not feel like it yet, but the Collins Bay Chapter is the real John Howard Society. YOU represent the new shape and direction of prisoner care and after-care: doing it yourselves! The first alumni group is just now getting organized. And none too soon.

The John Howard Society needs a body blow, or a blood transfusion, or a swift kick, however you want to see it, or it is going to become another useless, conformable arm of the government. That, is to say, of Correctional Services. When money is a serious problem, will anyone refuse to take on Mandatory Supervision contracts? Do you think anyone will risk criticizing a government that has the power to cut off funding? You've already got people in the Society thinking that the John Howard should co-operate with the parole board in revoking the parole of men who don't continue in a proposed new

"A VIEW FROM AN OUTSIDER" cont.....

program.

The change Has got to come from you. If you are smaller than the beached whale, at least you are not afraid of the water. The John Howard Society is avowedly there for the prisoners.

YOU will have to teach them what that means in practice, or they will simply no longer be there.

By Alexandra Sellers

"MUSIC"

The music is sweet,
I like to hear
All of the old ones,
I hold so dear.

From country to rock,
It tells of life.
Of all the good times,
And those of strife.

It tells of love,
both good and bad.
It can pick you up,
It can make you sad.

It can make you lonely,
And oh so blue.
It speaks of others,
It speaks of you.

It speaks of the future,
And of times gone by.
Music is life,
So don't let it die.

By; Dave Laidley

"THE 1981 COUCHICGING CONFERENCE"

Each year the John Howard Society Of Ontario holds a conference at Geneva Park, Lake Couchiching. The three day event affords board members, staff, and volunteers the opportunity to meet, develop new (and maintain old) friendships and discuss issues relevant and important to the Society. The Society has held the conference for a number of years now, but a new element was added to the 1981 event. This was the participation of a number of Alumni from the Collins Bay Chapter of the Society.

The Collins Bay Chapter has only been in existence for some two years. It is a recognized affiliate of the Society, and it is comprised of prisoners serving their sentences in Collins Bay Penitentiary, who are interested in helping other prisoners and furthering the aims of the John Howard Society. Although all the members of the Chapter are volunteers, the Chapter in many ways serves as a fully functional branch of the Society. It provides services to the community in which it is located through the medium of a Prisoner Information Service. The service is staffed full time by a member of the Chapter, and acts as a communication link between prisoners and any individuals, institutional bodies, or agencies who are concerned with their welfare and successful reintegration into society.

The Chapter has also developed and sponsors a Life Skills Course for prisoners who have less than 6 months to serve before release. The objective of the Life Skills Course is to assist prisoners to gain skills which will enable them to obtain parole as soon as possible, and to stay out of prison once they are on the street. The Chapter has taken a stand on a number of issues, and disseminates its views through the medium of a bi-monthly newsletter called "TOCSIN". In addition, the Chapter holds Thursday night meetings at which issues of interest to prisoners are discussed with people from the outside communities and

"THE 1981 COUCHICING CONFERENCE" cont....

governments. Meetings have been held with the Parole Board; staff from the Correctional Services of Canada and Solicitor General's staff, Crown Attornys, Defense Lawyers, Judges, staff from other John Howard branches, from Halfway Houses, and from all walks of life.

Now that the Chapter has been established for two years, a number of ex-members of the Chapter have been paroled or released from prison and have maintained an intrest in furthering the cause of the Chapter. To do this an imformal Alumni Association has been formed with the intention of examining methods through which it might become an effective voice within the John Howard Society and the community as a whole. The Alumni decided to hold its first meeting at the Couchiching Confrence, and a grant from the Harry A. Newman Memorial Foundation made it possible for 9 members of the Alumni Association to plan to attend. However, difficulties with obtaining travel permits resulted in only 5 members actually attending the confrence.

The theme of this year's confrence was "What Next? Making sense of Trends in Criminal Justice".

The confrence commenced with an address by Gail Stewart, who depicted herself as a member of the Canadian community. Ms. Stewart has taken this position because she sayes that it is a stance that is open to all of us- nobody excluded, and when you convene a group to talk together, it eliminates alot of the structure, and all of a sudden you have a room full of people who are members of the community. It is a valubleexcercise because looking at a familiar issue from the perspective of being a responsible citizen changes the more customary ways of approching an issue..

Gail Stewart was invited to the confrence to set the stage for discussions about current trends in criminal justice, and to illustrate the context in which criminal

"THE 1981 COUCHICING CONFERENCE" cont....

justice unfolds. Ms. Stewart felt that people are increasingly taking the stance of being a private citizen in thier dealings with all institutions, but especially the government, because of thier concern as to the misuse of power and authority by these same institutions. She feels that people are worried about the way government takes thier dollars and thier votes but does not permit any imput into the actual mechanism of government. In other words, citizens have taken supplicatory rather than a proprietary role in the community. Her answer to this problem is in being assertive. She says: that we are all taxpayers and receivers of government services, and as, such the community employs politicians and public servants. We should, therefore, make these people accountable to us.

If we can view the future in that light, then Ms. Stewart feels that the question of what the role of the community is in criminal justice, becomes a question of what the role of criminal justice is in the community. This turnabout changes what the issues are, since these same issues as seen by citizens responsible for criminal justice, are completely different from the issues as seen by administrtors. Ms. Stewart would like to see the future as a world in which citizens take responsibility for thier communities and embed the commitment to appreciate personal perceptions rather than the concept of embedding criminal justice within the community.

Ms. Stewart concluded by saying that there was definitely a role for the John Howard Society of Ontario in the process of making institutions sensitive to the communities of which they are a part. She says that the path to that role may emрге from getting together as responsible citizens, and certainly the John Howard Society can help by convening conversations about justice between interested citizens.

"THE 1981 COUCHICING CONFERENCE" cont.....

The next address was by Professor Irvin Waller who is with the Department of Criminology at the University of Ottawa. Professor Waller addressed himself specifically to future trends in criminal justice. Professor Waller first looked at the trend towards crime prevention. This is a major objective for government, voluntary agencies, and the public in attempting to reduce the number of crimes which are occurring. He felt that there are three ways of doing this. First of all by enforcing the law through the police and courts. The second method is known as "opportunity reduction" and covers the design of neighbourhoods, street paths and buildings so that the opportunity of crime is reduced. The third method is social prevention programs which are focussed on trying to remove the root causes of crime which up til now have been widely recognized as feeling of related deprivation and feelings of not being involved in society. This affects all of us because it appears that the trend is for increasing numbers of citizens to become involved in the mechanism of criminal justice. Not only is the trend towards incarceration slowly and steadily increasing, but there have been quantum leaps in the number of persons brought before the courts and released on community service orders or probation. Finally, there is a trend towards the victim-offender reconciliation. This is where the victim is given the part in the process of criminal justice. The victim is given the opportunity of advising the courts of the implications of the crime that was committed against him or her.

After Professor Waller's address there was a panel discussion involving His Honor Judge C.J. Cannon, who is a Provincial Court Judge in Toronto; John Duggan who is Executive Director of the Institutional Programs Division of the Ministry of Correctional Services; Gillian Sandeman, President of the Association for the Prevention of Crime; and Gordon MacFarlane who is the

"THE 1981 COUCHICING CONFERENCE" cont...

Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Ontario. The moderator was Gordon Hay, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the John Howard Society of Ontario. These four panalists responded to Professor Waller's analysis. The four panalists focused particularly on the areas of, and trends in, criminal justice in thier own lives.

After the panel discussion, the confrence broke up into small groups to take part in workshops designed to stimulate discussions and analysis of the trends presented by Gail Stewart, Professor Waller, and the panel.

After the workshop groups had shared the salient points of thier discussions with all the members at the confrence, the event was concluded by the presentation of the Alumni of the Collins Bay Chapter. Each of the Alumni shared his own particular views about membership in the John Howard Society, Collins Bay Chapter had ment to them, and thier hopes for the future response of the John Howard Society to prisoners, and to criminal justice as a whole. The Alumni wanted to try and give to people attending the confrence, some idea of what it was like to be a prisoner, and what it means to come back to the community after release. The Alumni hopes to help the John Howard Society and the community to assist prisoners upon release to reintegrate into society as effectively as possible. The Alumni wish to attempt to take a leadership role in this effort to assist prisoners in becoming useful members of society.

By; G.E. Dubois

"LET MURDERERS TAKE THEIR OWN LIVES"

Editor's Note:

I would suspect that all of the "sick" people aren't locked up! It is very difficult to discuss or reach an understanding with people that think like this, whether in prison or on the street, We must keep on trying!

Sir: We do not have the right to take someone else's life. but we want to be safe from murderers and cut down on future killings.

Here is the alternative to capital punishment:
What wrong with the murderer taking his own life?
Hasn't he killed before?

When a convicted murderer gets his life sentence in prison, it should mean the rest of his natural life. When he enters his isolated cell, he should know that he will never walk out that door alive (he actually should be bricked in, which would make society safe from him).

We, as a modern society, would feed him properly: solid, nutritious - but not fancy - foods. Inside his cell would be a built in box (similar to a fire alarm) containing a cyanide pill. Knowing that he would never get out of his cell alive, he could make peace with himself in due time and take the pill, a quick and painless end to his own life.

No hanging! No executioner!

W. Jost
Kingston
Reprinted from the Whig Standard

"THE PALLET PROJECT"

Many questions have been asked regarding the Pallet Project. Will it work? Do we have the initial investment? Is there a viable market? How will it benefit us all? (depending on who is doing the asking). Can we depend on the Cons to work and compete in the free market? Should the John Howard Society be involved in business ventures? Etc...

No doubt there are many questions, and taken separately, all relevant to the parties involved.

Let me ask you this, can we afford not to get involved? I'm not an economist, nor do I hold a university degree making me an authority to speak on any particular aspect of business. Nevertheless neither am I blind, to the economic situation in our country today, the difficulties that the United Way is experiencing in meeting it's goals RE; funding. The number of people being laid off in our supposedly industrial society.

Putting aside the humanitarian aspect of making an effort to resocialize prisoners, helping find jobs, which we have repeatedly tried to express as our number one concern and priority in keeping a Con on the street, paying taxes instead of taxes being spent to warehouse people in our prisons today

For what I am about to say, feel free to call me bold rude, or foolish, anything you please, but I ask you to think twice before you say radical or an idealist. I am neither! I do feel that I am a realist and feel very agitated at times that so many people of the John Howard cannot see the writing on the wall.

THE DAY OF HANDOUTS ARE DRAWING TO A CLOSE!

Government rhetoric espouse's the stand of community involvement, but are slow with regards to implementing the needed programs to help empty our jails and get us, the prisoners into the community contributing taxes, helping relieve the load on our already overburdened tax payer ---

YOU! Funding from the United Way and the community can't keep up with inflation.

We must advance -- push ahead and make an effort to earn our own monies, fund our own programs, and expand projects related to dollars and sense.

The idea of others supporting us cannot last. Why is it so difficult to see?

Last but certainly not least, who out there can disagree that our organization is not involved as an effective lobbying group in Ottawa, making our view's, idea's, and needs heard.

As Chairman of the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society, I was fortunate to be invited and be able to attend the Couchiching Conference where the Pallet Project was discussed. The amazing thing was the lack of any concrete suggestions or ideas to help Graham Stewart of the Kingston Branch formulate a plan to raise the funds required to get the Pallet Project off the ground.

Once again I repeat, we must start working as ONE, encouraging and helping each other accomplish our goals. Just to repeat an old clique, "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL". Presently we are sitting on the fence, sincerely, I hope we make the right decision, the future of our John Howard Organization could depend on it!

By; Gerald Colford Jr.
Chairman (past)
John Howard Society
Collins Bay Chapter

"EIGHT POINTS OF THE LAW"

1: A Good Cause, 2: A Good Purse, 3: Good Evidence
4: An Honest & Skillful Attorney, 5: Honest Witnesses
6; An Upright Judge, 7: An Intelligent Jury, 8: GOOD LUCK

By; George A. Selwyn

NEW PERCEPTIONS, AND HEIGHTENED AWARENESS

To begin this article with " How John Howard Society - Collins Bay Chapter Changed My Life ", would set a tone of testimonial not intended. Nevertheless, how ever sensational that statement may sound, it is no exaggeration.

Since becoming involved as a volunteer with J.H.S., Collins Bay Chapter six months ago, my perceptions of life in prison and my concept of the prison industry have expanded tremendously. My negative stereotyped view of prisoners has been shattered. I ask myself: "How have I lived in Prison City (Kingston) for five years and never noticed any concrete examples of the thriving prison services?" For example, I am now cognizant of the number of Correctional Services vehicles on the streets of Kingston. Rarely a day goes by when I don't make an imformal count of prison vehicles encountered in my travels. Trucks, cars, vans, and bussess all painted a startling green with contrasting white labelling.

For five years, on my daily jog past Kingston Penitentiary and back past the Court House on Barrie St., How had I never observed prisoners being transported to court, to hospital, and to work? Recently, on one such jogpast the Correctional Services Trainning School, I was struck by a ludicrous scenero. A squadron of new guard - recruits was practicing various military maneuvers and postures with rifles while the enemy, a CON dressed in green uniform mowed the lawn in and around the practicing platoon.

Another ironic discovery was a post card of Kingston Penitentiary: " Canada's Oldest and Most Notorious ". I wondered what message would be written on it; " Having a great time, wish you were here??"

Not only have I discovered in the past six months, evidence of the Correctional Services activity within the community, butI am more aware of media coverage of all aspects of the prison business. It is an incredible awakening to realize that it is possible to read or hear about prison on a daily basis. By listening to conversations of people conected with Corrections, I have been impressed by the

NEW PERCEPTIONS Cont.....

tremendous impact prison employee's comments have on public opinion. The public is only too eager to tune into, and form stereotyped images from sensational stories prison employee's relate about life on the inside.

I have come to believe, that prison employee's have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo in the prison business. Fostering negative public attitudes towards prisoners is a means to guarantee that the status quo is preserved. Why it never occurred to me before that an obsolete unjust system is allowed to exist because any positive revolutionary changes in the present system would mean an economical disaster to a city like Kingston? (One of the major employers of Kingstontonians is the Correctional Services Of Canada)

If prison employee's actively contribute to the negative stereotyping of the "CON" by the comments he/she makes on the outside, then an outsider coming in to the prison either has that image reinforced or destroyed. In my case, the "GOOD GUARD, BAD CON" image began to disintegrate from the minute I stepped through the front gate at the Bay. I recall being completely shocked by a raw, uncensored conversation I overheard from the two front gate guards as I waited to be escorted to the J.H.S. meetingroom. Destruction of my negative image of "CON" occurred slowly, week by week, as the result of many frank, intense conversations with these "CONS". The quality of dialogue experienced at these meetings was a marked contrast to the "NO - DEPTH", idle chit - chat regularly encountered on the street.

In conclusion, my involvement with the inmates of the J.H.S., Collins Bay Chapter has altered my perception of my attitude towards, and my interest in "CONS". My thinking, my observing, my reading, my communicating, and my feelings have taken on an added dimension and a greater depth. Perhaps if more people from the outside could get a glimpse of life on the inside, the "WALLS" that separate "US" from "THEM" would crumble and, from the rubble, a cornerstone of love and understanding could be laid.

By; Sandra Cantelon

"THE NEW PAY PROGRAM"

The new pay program is very good; but only in one respect. Granted, it is a very important aspect that it accomplishes - it gives a man upon release, more money to get started on. More of a foundation to build his new life on. With this new pay program,, one quarter of his earnings is put into his savings and this certainly works out to be quite a substantial amount, compared to the old pay program. Unfortunately, this seems to be the only major aspect that is good about it.

The new pay program was drawn up by the Education Branch in Ottawa - why not a Financial Branch, I'll never be able to figure it out - but it seems that the Educational Branch hasn't taken into account that prison life and requirements are very unique, and therefore should have drafted a program to fit into this very unique situation. It doesn't happen very often, but even the Administration in this Institution is in agreement with this, and no doubt, some Administrations in other Institutions concur.

Yes, the new pay program has some very bad points to it, but if these bad points could be changed - adjusted in a unique system that conforms to the pristine concept of the pay program - why, the new pay program would be great! Now, wouldn't that be a difference?!

The new pay program was to be a solution to the problems with the "old pay program" which were two: little money supply for the newly released Inmate, and secondly low purchasing power within the Institution - small pay. While it solved the first, it certainly failed in the latter! Much of the failure has to do with the pay scale itself, and the scales assigned to "job levels".

Dealing with the latter first; it is completely out of line in the reality of a prison setting, and its limited jobs to grade jobs for certain pay! The very limited high paying jobs of level 4 and 5 are just too few,

"NEW PAY PROGRAM" cont....

and these are usually aquired by someone who will be around for some time. The great majority of jobs within the institutions are level 2 and 3, and the pay for these jobs do leave a little to be desired. It does leave alot to be desired when a man works just as hard, or harder on a lower level paying job scale, as a man on a higher level job, and receives less pay for it!

The solution I believe for this oversight would be to adapt some of the "old pay program" into the existing "new pay program". To grade the Inmate himself for his work performance at his assigned job. To either upgrade him if his work performance is good, and to either leave him at his current grade or downgrade him if his work performance is poor. This would certainly solve the problem of the limited high paying jobs, and also to the low level given to the Inmates trying to improve himself by entering programs designed to provide Vocational and Educational Training. And again, by borrowing from the old pay program, provide incentives to encourage Inmates to work at the tougher jobs by overtime, and bonus schemes. This would achive the aim of Inmates developing good work habits, and receive a pay worthy of his efforts to do such.

The present pay scale itself has just to many levels in it. On top of having 5 grade levels, there are 3 grade levels in 4 of them! A comlicated and totally unnecessary break down! With an Inmate being rewarded for his good work ethics, the 3 levels within the job classification level would simply not be needed. Therefore, you could apply the top level of each pay level, to each grading for the Inmate, and thereby causing a raise in purchasing power, and raise the pay standards without changing the top level of pay allotments. In other words, do away with the 3 increments of 55¢ to get to the top of the grading level. This would do away with the nine months or more that is taken to get to the top of the grading level, which is to low to begin with if an Inmate has to spend most of his sentence in a level 2 or 3 paying job. This is much more in line with the reality of the prison setting, and would certainly observe the pristine concept of the new pay program.

"NEW PAY PROGRAM" cont.....

Another major problem in the new pay program is the level "1" as a subsistence level for Inmates who are unemployed or unable to work. This level is much too low, as it doesn't take into account that all the newcomers into the prison system are unemployed and yet the newcomer has to start from scratch to purchase that are necessary. Level "1" is \$1.60 per day, bringing in \$16.00 every two weeks. At a \$16.00 pay every two weeks, a newcomer ~~would~~ get by, but, in reality he doesn't receive \$16.00!! What he does receive is \$16.00 minus 25% for savings, which leaves him \$12.00; then minus \$1.00 for the Inmate Welfare Fund leaves him \$11.00; then again minus \$3.00 for the Recreation Fund (which was paid by the C.P.S. under the old program) which leaves the Inmate with a grand total of \$8.00 pay for two weeks. Certainly not enough for a newcomer to set himself up in canteen goods needed to maintain an existence within the prison - and certainly not enough when canteen goods are almost at par with the street prices, and with the cost of cigarettes going up to \$9.50 per carton in a matter of months! This is completely and totally unrealistic!!!

The common sense solution (was it ever used in this pay program?) would be to start all newly arrived Inmates in level "2", thereby making it possible to exist without the undue hardships now imposed on them for the first two months within the system before they receive employment and their first pay cheque.

Reserve the level one status for those Inmates who refuse to work, or who are in segregation, but surely not for those who are medically unfit to work (why should one be punished for a handicap, and get \$8.00 for a pay?), not for newcomers within the system who really need a hand to get started, and not for Inmates who are unemployed for a short time because of lack of jobs. Isn't this more realistic?

"NEW PAY PROGRAM" cont.....

When word arrived about the new pay program, It was said of it that it would fall more into line with reality of a working man's situation in the business and Industrial Community. In at least one aspect, this is totally false. Here, if a shop Instructor or a Works Supervisor is away from work due to illness, holidays, to attend a Funeral, Etc....., - the employee here receives a Half days pay!!! This certainly does not happen on the street as a foreman would take over the supervision of a shop or the Vice-President would take over the running of the business and the employee would not lose any pay. Why should an Inmate lose half of his pay when its no fault of his own? That doesn't make sense no matter where you are! If the shop Supervisor goes on holidays, why not pay the Inmate holiday pay as well? This whole situation is totally unfair, and completely unrealistic.

Lastly, the man who drafted up the new pay program certainly didn't have a clue about prison life, and its requirements, nor did he it seems, call upon people in the know about prison life for advise. If he did, he certainly wouldn't have removed the Trust Account and just leave the Canteen and Savings Account within the pay program. With the removal of the Trust Account, all monies an Inmate brings with him into the system, and all monies sent to him by his family and friends, now go into his Savings Account. No monies in his Savings Account can be used within the Institution, thereby leaving an Inmate only his Canteen Account to draw from. How an Inmate arriving within an Institution can ever hope to purchase items needed to exist, such as a radio, jogging shoes, track suit, etc...etc....., or to start into a hobby craft before he has managed to save enough through Canteen Funds is beyond me. Of course, if an Inmate became a miser, he may be able to do so in a year or so! Certainly, the person who decided to remove the trust account (to take away an Inmates money that the Institution has no right in taking in the first place, by putting it into an account where he cannot get at it for Institutional purchases) never thought to investigate the old pay programme enough, nor has he spent

"NEW PAY PROGRAM" cont.....

any lenght of time in a 6X9 cell without a radio!! This removal of the trust account is not only unrealistic to prison life, but also completely and truly STUPID!!!!!!

This aspect alone of the new pay program makes it totally unworthy, and has been the cause of two major prison disturbances out west. Common sense tells me that this aspect, this removal of the Trust Account, is completely wrong, and surly someone in the Administrative circle of the C.P.S. has cbmmon sense enough to re-implement it!

Finally, the whole new pay package of course would have to be adjusted yearly to accomodate the rise in the cost of living - which affects the costs of canteen items - to make the whole program viable and worthwhile.

As I said at the start of this article, the new pay program is very good, but only in one respect. Wouldn't it be great if it were great in all respects?!!!!!!!!!!!!

Serge J. LeClair-C.B.I. Canteen

"VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP BOYS"

The Toronto Boy's Home in the Pape-Danforth Ave. area needs volunteer families or couples without children to befriend and help teenage adolescents in a therapeutic group home on week-ends.

Lynda Kosowan, co-ordinator, said the 32 boys range from 13 to 16 and have been through the court system. She said most of them are working on behavior problems and have no families.

Volunteers should call these numbers at the branch offices of the United Way's Volunteer Centre: Toronto - 961 - 6888 ; Etobicoke - 231 - 6521 ; North York - 481 - 6194 ; and Scarborough - 264 - 2308.

"TOCSIN"

When a policeman is hurt, the outcry is as if the end of the world had come. One never likes to see anyone hurt, but the fact is that many other occupations are far more dangerous than being a policeman. Why is there no outcry whenever a construction worker is hurt or killed? Is it boring because it happens so often?

Among the occupations which are more dangerous than police work, according to the Workman's Compensation Board, are building wrecking, mining, stevedoring, steel erection, logging and lumbering, tunneling, excavating, farming, trucking, firefighting, meatpacking, sign painting, grain handling, and even baking. In fact, the WCB lists about 109 different occupations, and considers some 64 of them more dangerous than police work.

--Ulli Diemer
Ward Seven News
Reprinted from RIKKA, Vol. VIII

"EDMONTON INSTITUTION TO ADD 140 MORE CELLS BY 1985"

Edmonton Institution will expand to accommodate the growing number of maximum security inmates in Northern Alberta.

The prison's capacity will be increased from about 180 to 320 by 1985, assistant warden Jack Davis said.

There is a shortage of maximum cells in Western Canada because of the conversion of Saskatchewan Penitentiary to a protective custody institute, said Davis.

Reprinted from the Edmonton
Journal

"KIDCRIME: CRIMINALS OR VICTIMS"

The above was the topic of a recent show hosted by one Dr. Morton Shulman. Dr. Shulman to many people is a respected member of the Toronto community. Presently he is employed by the Toronto Sun newspaper. He is a past member of the legislature, and comes across as straightforward and basicly honest.

We at the John Howard Society, Collins Bay Chapter are very surprised (smile) at his narrow minded archaic ideas regarding the Criminal Justice System and resocialization of men and women back into thier communities as productive citizens, paying taxes instead of costing the poor tax payer additional money. We would be more than happy to have him attend one of our Thursday evening meetings, not to change him, but to show him that there are Cons making an honest effort to change thier lifestyles in a constructive non-violent way.

ps; This is a letter addressed
to Dr. Shulman that will
give you insight on what I
spoke of above.

Dave Laidley
Editor

Dear Morton Shulman,

After many of your television shows, I have sat down to compose a letter, but I gave up when I found myself unable to zero in on just how you managed to confuse and distort a given issue.

This evening, as I watched the repeat show of "Kidcrime"; Criminals or Victims, I had no trouble sorting out your prejudiced views on the subject. It was as plain as could be that you just hear what you want to hear, disregarding the knowledge and experience of people who, though they may not have a simple cure, have some extremely important and relevent things to say. I am astounded that a man of your intelligence and background could be so simple-minded about such a complex problem. The only explanation I can come up with for your crude and uninformed comments is that you are playing the Devil's Advocate in order to create a mood of controversy. I would like to believe this, but find it difficult to do so, because you do your thing too well for it to be an act.

"KIDCRIME" cont.....

Of course, you are not prepared to concede that criminal behavior stems from the way that we relate to our children from infancy to adolescence in our homes and schools and other societal institutions. Even worse, you say you do not care about the cause, just the cure. never mind trying to change our consumer oriented society, never mind changing our economic system, which allows the rich to become richer at the expence of the poor. Lets teach these bad kids a lesson, lets punish them, because they havn't learned to play the "Success Game" by the rules. It is thier fault after all, that they are not acedemically inclined or motivated to be law abiding, hard - working citizens. And if they don't play by the rules, let's give them the strap in school, and if that does'nt work after several tries, we can send them to training to knock some sense into them. Surely that will help them to reconsider thier delinquent ways. And if not, we can send them to adult jails and penal institutions. We will show them that we mean business... and business it is, for we spend millions on a system of criminal justice that keeps thousands of people, including myself, employed!

Don't get me wrong. I am not advocating that we should not hold young people responsible for thier wrong doings and actions. I am saying that violence begets violence, and that we should seek solutions beyond the simpilistic "An Eye For An Eye!" People can be given opportunities to try to repay some of the damage they have done and to restore some dignity to themselves by participating in meaningful work and community life. Too often, such opportunities are not available. Our society is too busy worrying about inflation and military defence to spend more time or money on building healthier enviroments for families. But once children are in trouble with the law, we reluctantly spend tax money on institutional care, placing children in situations which foster rebellion and deception. If criminals are somehow defective, it is because our society is somehow defective.

Sincerely Yours in Frustration
RONNY YARON

PS: How about a program on alternatives to incarceration? I know several people who would make excellent guests for this topic.

"E D I T O R I A L"

When the Hon. Bob Kaplan, P.C. M.P., Solicitor General of Canada presented the following speech at the Annual Meeting of the John Howard Society of Newfoundland he must have captivated his audience. There is much to be said about, and thought about this speech.

One aspect of interperparation from a captive of the system is the area of community and citizen involvement. The past five years of active involvement in prison social groups has been most impressive. for a prisoner to meet, understand, interact with, and relate to those members of society who so wisely and unselfishly find time in their lives to share a part of their world with us. I hold the highest magnatude of esteem for these people. It doesn't take long to realize the amount of good they do in the prison system.

But, to project even a little further, the potential for greater impact is there. I for one believe that once the community has total access to all facets of the prison system, the system will realize a progressive change for the betterment of all Canadians.

I have seen numerous projects and programs of long and short duration. I've been a member of "Think Tanks" comprised of both citizens and prisoners, a group of concerned people, where proposals, concepts, and ideas of moderate prison reform have given brainchilds ranging the spectrum of prison conditions to crime prevention. Many ideas have been good, while yet others wre not. What we don't try, we will never know about.

With the amount of studies done in today's prisons, its a simple fact that Mr. Kaplan knows what he is talking about. We need more concerned citizens involved in every aspect of the criminal justice system, and especially in the "Back-Up" system of penitentiaries. At present there are some social exchanges allowing a few persons to enter the Federal Prisons,

but not nearly enough for the majority of penitentiary prisoners to receive the guidance, direction and success needed to return to our communities as respectful, productive, and selfsupporting members of society.

A good dose of exposure and contact with members of all social levels of the outside world will cure many ills within the prison system, and at least give the ex-offender an even chance at making his or her attempts at successful resocialization into the fast pace of today's changing world more attainable.

When prisoners join existing groups, or start new groups with a goal of social development, they take the first step in the long walk home. Perhaps the day will come when the Hon. Solicitor General will not only tell the citizens of our country what's needed, but will as head of the justice system instruct the proper persons in charge at all levels, National, Regional, and Institutional to participate in what could be a most worthwhile effort at redirection. One that will see at least hundreds of prison years utilized, and not wasted as is now the rule in more cases than not.

I ask you to read Mr. Kaplan's speech now, and think about his last sentence. Perhaps you can help us help ourselves to a better way of life and understanding. Justice is not revenge, Justice is people living in harmony and peace under realistic and humane conditions.

By; Ron Lauzon

Community Response to Criminal Justice and the Rehabilitation of Offenders

The Hon. Bob Kaplan, P.C., M.P., Solicitor General of Canada was Guest Speaker at the Annual Meeting of the John Howard Society of Newfoundland, held on May 29, 1981. The following is the text of the speech delivered by Mr. Kaplan:

*Perspectives of Crime and Corrections, a quarterly periodical published by the John Howard Society of Newfoundland.

"I must say, I particularly look forward to the privilege of speaking to private sector agencies such as the John Howard Society, since it gives me the opportunity to acknowledge and reaffirm the integral partnership we have developed within the corrections community.

This partnership is based on more than a mere sharing of common interests and common pursuits; indeed, it is a partnership steeped in the history and evolution of corrections in Canada and one which represents a mutual commitment toward ultimate achievement of future aims and aspirations.

The continuing challenge of innovation, experimentation and creativity in corrections and criminal justice on the part of private individuals and agencies represents a legacy, a rich heritage which is the history of corrections, not only in Canada, but throughout the free world.

The vast majority of what you see around you in corrections today owes its beginnings to the involvement of private citizens.

It is important to remember that it was a Boston shewmaker and not a correctional official who originated the concept of probation. You may perhaps recall that it was a group of determined and concerned women who organized the first juvenile court in the city of Chicago. It is also worth remembering that it was a Scottish sea captain and geographer, Alexander McConachie, who originated almost all our current practices of classification, degrees of custody, parole and the concept of remission and incentives. It was Elizabeth Fry and John Howard who took on the British

Home Office insisting that the public had a right to prison visitation and inspection; and that the plight of inmates and the conditions of imprisonment must be improved. It was a civil engineer, Thomas Mott Osborne, who first organized any form of inmate participation in the affairs of a penal institution. In 1825, it was private money which made it possible to establish residence for unemployed ex-prisoners in Philadelphia - probably the first halfway house. It was the private sector, not government, that initiated and organized these efforts. It was a recognition of the shortcomings of the public tax-supported programs of the day which gave rise to this private response. This is the legacy of the private sector's contribution to corrections in the world. This is the heritage that the professionals have received from your predecessors.

This same dedication and commitment to change - to find a better way, persists on the part of private sector efforts even to this day. But, if Canadians are ever to have complete confidence in their criminal justice system, Government and the community must come together in a way they have not done up to the present.

Today's criminal justice system could perhaps be aptly described as a loosely connected series of institutions, customs and procedures involving criminal legislation, law enforcement agencies, crown attorneys, the judiciary, correctional agencies, paroling authorities and countless private sector and volunteer services. These various parts are often pursuing not only different but sometimes contradictory goals and purposes. To add to the complexity, in Canada virtually every element of the system is artificially divided by the constitution and by custom between the federal and provincial levels of government, with further administrative responsibility among different departments within jurisdictions.

Nonetheless, there has developed within this apparently fragmented, segmented, and jurisdictionally complex model a growing consciousness and sense of awareness about the relationships of the various elements which make up the criminal justice community, and the need to begin to co-ordinate and organize our efforts in a more systematic way.

In the last decade, we have begun to ask some fundamental questions about the burgeoning costs of criminal justice, the over-all effectiveness of criminal justice programs and services. Today, the provision of criminal justice services and programs consumes about \$3 billion annually.

Why is the system so large? The traditional response to concern about increased crime and the need to deal more effectively with criminal behaviour, has been to provide more money, and more of the same - more courts, more police, more prosecutors, more judges, more correctional facilities, more probation officers, more of everything until Canadian criminal justice is now a multi-billion dollar enterprise employing tens of thousands of individuals. Yet, we have been unable to determine with any certainty what works and what doesn't work with any degree of effectiveness.

As Solicitor General, I am becoming more and more convinced that the major answer to crime lies beyond the police, courts and confinement. Criminal behaviour is a function of the offender's motivation and intentions as well as the social economic, and political circumstances of the community. The solutions, therefore, must be sought in both areas.

Within the field of corrections, the scale of community programming is far greater than at any other time in history. The major thrust of this expansion has occurred outside the walls of conventional institutions, in pursuit of alternatives to imprisonment. In addition to increasing the use and scope of such longestablished programs such as probation and parole, we are also seeing greater innovation in other community based programs such as diversion, conflict mediation, community residential centres, aftercare, work release, community service orders, restitution, fine-option programs, intermittent sentences, victim compensation, and many others. Collectively, these program and services constitute evidence of a major shift in traditional penal practice and have rather suddenly altered the character of the correctional process.

The development and implementation of community-based alternatives to corrections and criminal justice have been an area of major interest and concern to the Federal Government for some time, and will continue to represent a significant priority in the years ahead.

The need to develop alternatives to imprisonment has been well recognized not only in Canada but in many other countries as well. As a manifestation of this, at the Sixth United Nations Congress held in Caracas, Venezuela last September, Canada took the initiative and subsequently achieved a consensus on a resolution concerning alternatives to incarceration. Among the more significant provisions of this resolution, it was recommended that member States:

- a) Endeavour to make the necessary resources available for carrying out alternatives sanctions and ensure, in accordance with their national laws, the appropriate use of these sanctions to the maximum extent possible, bearing in mind the need to respond to the specific requirements of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of society;
- b) Consider means for effective involvement of the various components of the Criminal Justice System, and the community, in the continuing process of developing non-institutional sanctions;
- c) Encourage wider community participation in the implementation of non-institutional sanctions and in activities aimed at the rehabilitation of offenders;
- d) Make efforts to inform the public of the advantages of non-institutional sanctions, to encourage the public acceptance of these measures.

I think you will agree that Canada could not have begun the next decade of Criminal Justice and Correctional Reform on a more meaningful note than is implicit in the resolution I just cited.

The impetus for the development of alternatives to incarceration

came from a number of emerging factors and beliefs:

1) There is an emerging belief in Canada that we overuse, perhaps even exploit, the criminal justice system to resolve legal conflicts and that many such conflicts are better resolved within the community. In its first discussion paper, the Law Reform Commission of Canada in 1976 advocated that criminal law should be used with restraint, and that the criminal justice system should only be used as an instrument of last resort for dealing with conflict and for re-affirming the community's values.

2) There has been growing concern with the ever-rising costs associated with running the criminal justice system, not only in Canada but in other countries around the world as well. The corrections component of the justice system takes up about 21 cents out of each criminal justice dollar spent in Canada. It has become very expensive to keep people in prison, particularly at the maximum security end of the spectrum. Last year, for example, it cost nearly \$30,000 to maintain one male inmate in a federal maximum security institution.

Now, I fully realize that at times the only appropriate response to crime is imprisonment and, for serious crimes, imprisonment for long periods on time. However, where imprisonment is not effective, where less expensive more humane or simply more reasonable alternatives are available, we should be trying them. Indeed, we should be exploiting them.

It is important to remember that incarceration is the ultimate weapon in the criminal arsenal, the most extreme sanction the State may impose upon its citizens and it should therefore not be used indiscriminately or out of habit. It should and can lend support to the increased use of alternative programs.

3) There has been a growing belief on the part of many observers that there tends to be an over-reliance on the use of imprisonment in this country - an over-reliance as opposed to other penalties and sanctions which might be employed by the courts. On any given day, we have in Canada about 23,000 people held in prisons,

excluding those in police lock-ups for short durations. This represents an imprisonment rate of about 90 per 100,000, which is less than half that of the United States, about the same as New Zealand and West Germany, but four times greater than the Netherlands.

The extensive use of incarceration is more acutely felt at the provincial level of corrections rather than at the federal level. Of the nearly 150,000 Canadians who were sentenced to various correctional services in 1977-78, 62% were sent to provincial institutions, 35.5% were placed on probation and only 2.5% were sent to federal penitentiaries. During that same period of time, it was observed that in provincial prisons, 85 out of every 100 new admissions had sentences under six months. This apparent "revolving door" phenomenon had a profound impact upon provincial jurisdictions who immediately began to examine alternative courses of action. Subsequently, new programs emerged, such as intermediate sentencing, and fine option programs. By the same token, new life was breathed into other alternatives such as restitution and community service orders.

My Ministry, along with the Department of Justice, is very much involved in amending legislation to enable the provinces to develop and expand community alternative programs and services. My colleague, the Minister of Justice, the Hon. Jean Chretien, will be bringing forward proposals for Cabinet's consideration in the coming months to amend the Criminal Code and to provide greater alternatives to the courts in their sentencing process.

4) Over the past decade, there has developed a more realistic appraisal as to what can honestly be accomplished in terms of personal reformation within the confines of a prison or penitentiary setting. Simply put, we can no longer claim we have the medicine which will cure criminal behaviour and return an offender to the community as a socially responsible citizen. Obviously, that continues to be a desired outcome, but we cannot guarantee its achievement in all cases.

However, we must create a climate within our institutions which is as close to normal as possible. Since the vast majority of in-

mates will eventually be released, that only makes common sense. A healthy climate within our institutions means giving the inmates a normal working day at a job which pays them for their efforts. It means giving inmates the opportunity to learn a trade, to acquire skills which can be used upon release. It means providing the opportunity for inmates to upgrade their education and develop the basic social skills which will enable them to compete in a world which has become very complex and where the competition is keen. It means creating an environment which impresses upon the inmates the need to respect the rights of others and where they can learn to respect themselves.

To do otherwise, would be a waste of time, effort and taxpayers money. We cannot expect a released inmate to become a model citizen, if, throughout the course of his imprisonment, he has been denied the opportunity, deprived of all decision-making, self-respect and his dignity as a human being.

5) Imprisonment has been viewed as an unnecessarily harsh and excessive approach to the problem of minor non-violent crime. Rather than preventing criminal behaviour, prisons have been viewed as the progenitors of crime where skills in law-breaking and criminal activity are nurtured and transmitted to the novice and inexperienced. This perception of incarceration as a school of higher education in crime has acted as a major catalyst in attempts to find methods of avoiding imprisonment if possible, or reducing and separating the prison populations.

All of these concerns have led to the growing emphasis on alternatives to incarceration. It is important to stress, however, that while alternative programs often replace imprisonment in individual cases, they will never make our correctional institutions obsolete. The ultimate success of community programs is dependent upon the continued existence of a "back-up" system and that system will continue to be penitentiaries.

Nevertheless, our correctional environment is changing. And these changes provide new directions for everyone involved in the criminal justice system.

For its part, my Ministry will continue to provide leadership, through research, supporting conferences and workshops to enhance communication, information sharing and experience, and through the funding of innovative and demonstration projects. In addition, we will continue working with the Department of Justice in developing policy proposals aimed at removing the legal obstacles and permitting the expanded use of alternatives to imprisonment.

But it is extremely important, indeed it is essential for the adequate functioning of a criminal justice system that there be an aware, and even an aroused citizenry, but a citizenry which is informed.

Since being appointed Solicitor General, I have become convinced that one of the most important problems to overcome is the attitudes Canadians generally have towards crime, criminals and justice. Right or wrong, it is these opinions and attitudes which will determine the scope of any reform.

I have also become convinced that alternative programs - community based programs - offer real hope for increasing public awareness of, and sensitivity to, the whole system of criminal justice. There is tremendous potential for actually engaging ordinary citizens in the day to day delivery of these alternative sanctions. It is in mobilizing the broad public participation required by such a system that private sector agencies can continue to lead the way in reform.

So for your part, I would encourage you to expand your already active role in public education - to enlist even wider support and involvement in the community - so that we can successfully meet the demands of what I am certain will be a more humane and effective correctional environment.

In conclusion, I would like to refer to the proceedings of the First National Conference on Diversion which was held in 1977, where efforts aimed at developing community-based alternatives to criminal justice were described as "a promise...that the poor, the uneducated and the abandoned who come in conflict with the law will

receive the support and comassion of their communities." It is my personal feeling, that we have come a long way toward translating that promise into reality, and given the policy direction we as a nation have committed ourselves to in the coming decades, I look forward to your views on the ways and means we can expand our horizons even further.

Bob Kaplan

"S U P E R V I S I O N"

This letter is concerning Mandatory Supervision:

I believe that Mandatory Supervision after two-thirds of a prison sentence is completed is unjust, cruel and unusual punishment.

If a person has followed the rules of the penitentiary during his or her sentence, he or she should be entitled to be released when two-thirds of his or her sentence has expired. He or she shouldn't have to do that one-third if they have earned this release.

All that Mandatory Supervision does is discourage the convict when what he or she needs is a helping hand and a fresh start.

It is time to put the Gestapo techniques away and work more on rehabilitation. I believe that once released, prisoners have paid for their crime dearly, with a piece of their life!

Why should they continue to be placed on Mandatory Supervision, when in truth they have earned that one-third?

By; Jim Danchuk
Edmonton, Alta.

"E D I T O R I A L"

This editorial is in response to Jim Danchuk's letter to the Edmonton Journal, That we so luckily came across in our many searches for response towards the campaign for the Abolishment of Mandatory Supervision.

Jim's letter has struck me personally as both sincere and inquisitive at the same time. Although Jim does not go into detail concerning the uncountable injustices, he has grasped the idea of the total unfairness regarding the stand we find ourselves taking towards Mandatory Supervision as it now presents itself to us the inmates who must live with it once we are released after the two-thirds of our sentence has expired.

I would like to say thank you to Jim for his letter even though it was not sent to us personally, because what he did by sending it to the Edmonton Journal has helped us a great deal more than if he had sent it to us. He has brought many more people like you the reader to become aware of a situation that truly needs to be brought before the public's eye. I hope to see in the future many more articles like Jim's in the many newspapers across Canada. The more people who are made aware of the stand that we are taking, the better life will be for the many people who may stand a new and better chance at life on the street with a society who knows and is acting on their behalf to change the situations as they now exist.

By; Dave Laidley
Editor

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A RUT AND A GRAVE IS THEIR DIMENSIONS.

--Ellen Glasgow

CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF POLICE ACTIONS

C.I.R.P.A. - What is it?

On Tuesday June 9, 1981, about thirty-five people from organized Police Reform Groups, and a handfull of lawyers met to discuss an Independent Citizen's Review Mechenism to deal with allegations of police misconduct.

This has gone on to a full fledged operation in Toronto. C.I.R.P.A. has a 24-hour phone line, 960-6318.

These independent groups of concerned citizens have taken a big step forward on the road to Basic Human Rights.

Toronto Police over the years have been known for having its 'hold-up Squad' force confessions from suspects through severe beatings and numerous forms of torture. To date this Department is the most complained about on the Metro Police Force.

C.I.R.P.A. Wants to help!

This group has put a platform together that consists of five major purposes:

- 1) To systematically obtain and review allegations of police misconduct in Metropolitan Toronto.
- 2) To assist complainants in pursuing their allegations through the most appropriate channels.
- 3) To periodically publish statistics on the number and nature of complaints, and on their disposition.
- 4) To press for reforms, to ensure that both complainant and police officers recieve fair and impartial treatment.
- 5) To press for needed reforms in the organizations and conduct of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force.

Through the early stages of C.I.R.P.A. the newspaper media tried all they could to sway the public from acknowledging

them as a responsible group trying to bring allegations of Police Brutality out in the open.

The following letter was written by Dianne L. Martin - to the editor of the Globe & Mail. Ms. Martin is a prominent Toronto Criminal lawyer, and also one of the active co-founders of C.I.R.P.A.

"I am most concerned by the inaccurate impression created by statements about police practices attributed to me in an article about Citizens' Independent Review of Police Actions (Givens Skeptical: Citizens Form Group to Investigate Police-July 14).

The reference entirely missed the point of my comments at a press conference announcing the formation of an umbrella organization created to assist individuals who have complaints about police misconduct.

In response to questions about the use of the word torture, I referred the questioner to cases in which concerns of this sort were seriously raised, and referred to findings of the Morand Commission Inquiry into Police Brutality and to the evidence called at a recent County Court trial for his own investigation. Moreover, I stated repeatedly that C.I.R.P.A. as an organization and myself as an individual were not interested in denouncing police in general nor in relying on titillation of individual "horror" stories. My concern is that incidents of alleged police misconduct of whatever degree be dealt with fairly, impartially and effectively, whether founded or not, when such allegations are circulating at the community level, the real and serious question is how such allegations are treated.

Citizens' Independent Review of Police Actions was formed because existing and proposed review procedures are seen to be utterly incapable of achieving the goal of effective review of such problems."

We here at 'Tocsin sympathized with Ms. Martin and will support C.I.R.P.A. "Till hell freezes over!"

Stephen St. Denis

" RICH VS. POOR "

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Eddie Keen is a Diskjockey with Radio Station "630 CHED" in Edmonton Alberta. This article was aired by Mr. Keen on Thursday September 3rd, 1981. It expresses a legitimate concern regarding the above; A Law for the Rich—another for the Poor. We think you will find this to be interesting reading, and any and all comments will be appreciated.

Good afternoon..... If you ever tour one of our provincial jails something will be most obvious..... there is a large percentage of native people behind bars.... the next thing that will strike you is that most of the inmates are young, generally under 30, mostly under 25..... third, most of the inmates of our jails look like they come from poor homes.... now does that mean that mostly natives, mostly people under 25 from poor homes commit crimes in our province?..... well, if you look inside our jails, thats what you might think.... but friend, there is a big difference between who commits crimes, and who goes to jail..... now, right now, today how many young people do you know who are in jail for possession of a few ounces of pot..... if kids are caught with more than a toke.... its a trafficking rap.... cops don't have to prove they made a buck, or were selling it.... if they have a large amount, they must be trafficking, and that brings jail.... so as I said, you'll see a lot of young people, and people from poor environments in jail for trafficking in dope.... now does that mean that only poor young people from bad environments traffic in dope..... you got to be kidding,..... now if you were the president of an oil company and you got caught with dope.... well, that's something else.... in June 1979 RCMP caught 34 year old Alain Patrick Rostoker with about a kilo of grass.... this guy was president of Devonian Resources, an oil company... now Rostoker was charged with "social trafficking"..... can you imagine some kid saying: "Hey Judge, I was just involved in social trafficking", anyway, this president of an oil company was accused of social trafficking.....did he go to jail?....of course not.... he was fined \$1,000.00 the Judge said he was taking into account his position in the business community..... he obviously didn't take into account his bank account... \$1,000.00 to an oil company president is just a

"RICH VS. POOR" cont....

few minutes rip-off of the public.

So thats why you only see kids from bad homes and natives and down and outers in jail.....not because they are the only ones breaking laws, but because they don't have the standing in the community of the president of an oil company like Alain Patrick Rostoker.....

Politicians and Judges say we must have respect for the law....well, when the law respects everyone as equals, then maybe it will get the respect in return.....This case is an insult to every young person now rotting in a provincial jail because they don't happen to be oil company presidents..... I'm Eddie Keen.... Good Afternoon.

By; Eddie Keen

"MEMORIES"

The orchestra was playing at a local night spot, and during the programe they played a tune for all the newlyweds in audience. The name of the tune they played was "More and More". For the couples married for ten years they played "Night and Day." For those people married for fifteen years they played "Saturday Night". For those married twenty years, they played "Now and Then". When the band leader stated that the next tune was for those couples married for fifty years, an old man in the audience rose and said "Now just a minute, before you go playing Memories, I wish you would play We Did It Before, We Can Do It Again".

YEAR	MURDER	SUICIDE	NAT'L CAUSES	ACCIDENTAL	LEGAL INT'N	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
1970	1	21	16	1	1	0	40
1971	2	10	7	3	3	1	26
1972	3	7	7	3	3	1	25
1973	3	11	14	2	1	0	31
1974	4	10	11	5	1	0	31
1975	4	8	15	6	1	0	34
1976	7	5	15	7	3	1	38
1977	8	11	9	4	3	1	36
1978	5	6	14	7	2	4	38
1979	12	8	8	2	3	2	35
1980	8	10	13	3	2	3	39
TOTAL	57	107	129	21	21	12	373

*** STATISTICS OF INMATE DEATHS OVER A ELEVEN YEAR SPAN***

EDITOR'S NOTE:

For some of you readers who read the article submitted by Mr. Lott in our last issue of TOCSIN, you may have come across the Total Statistics of Inmate Deaths, and found that it read "over 3,000 deaths in an eleven year span". This error was not found out until after the Tocsin had returned from the Press, and we apologize for our mistake which Mr. Lott brought to our attention, which by that time the Tocsin had been delivered. We will try in the future to be more scrupulous in our materials. Mr. Lott wishes to add that these figures were obtained from the Solicitor General's Office, and that as of yet, he has yet to be able to define the meaning of UNKNOWN. Mr. Lott says that since all factions have been covered completely under the five major headings, how did they die?

Editor's Note:

The following was taken from: Hapotoc Newsletter, P.O. Box 22523, Fazantenhof, Bijlmermeer, Amsterdam, Holland. This newsletter will give you the reader an insight into the injustices and cruelties of prisoners around the world. If you are interested, write to the above address for more information pertaining to these situations.

"Draft The Dead - They Are Experienced!!" (HAPOTOC)

WE ASK YOUR SUPPORT FOR: MOSE MURRY P.M.B. 91074 CBA,
ANGOLA STATE PENITENTIARY,
ANGOLA, LOUISIANA 70712, U.S.A.

Mose is in prison for armed robbery, he has to do 99 years. Patricia Hearst did only 23 months for the same "crime"? But...Mose did not do this robbery alone, he was with another person. Now...his co-defendant in the same case had another Judge and another lawyer, but the same State Witness and got 7 years. How is that possible? According to Mose they committed this offence together, But the co-defendant got 7 years for the robbery. We mention Mose in our Dutch News Letter and hope that you will write some letters on his behalf.

The Judge who sent him to prison for 99 years is:
Mathew Braniff; Section "B", Orleans Parish Criminal Court,
2700 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, La. 70119,
U.S.A.

His lawyer: William O'Hara, Loyola Law Clinic, P.O. Box
49, 6363 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La.
70118, U.S.A.

The "7" year Judge: Rudolph Becker, Section "E", same
address as Mathew Braniff.

We thank you for your support in causes such as this is.

From: HAPOTOC

NATIVES JAILED FOR DEBT

Debtors Prison is something most people think belongs to the era of Charles Dickens, and that people are not thrown into jail any longer when they can't pay a debt.

What happens when you can't pay a fine though? Well, in Kenora Ontario, chances are that you will end up in jail. Native people who couldn't afford to pay fines for minor offences, or in some cases did not receive notices of fines through the mail are spending on an average of 33 days in jail to pay a debt of 120.00. Of sixty fine defaulters surveyed in the Kenora district jail, 97% are of native origin, although only one quarter of the local population is native. More than half of the sixty people surveyed had a monthly income of less than 400.00, and unemployment among the group was more than three times the national average. Three quarters said that they could not afford to pay the fines, and more than one third said that they did not receive notice of their fines through the mail.

While the sixty natives surveyed served a total of 2,003 days in jail in order to satisfy unpaid fines, amounting to 7,197.00, it cost the taxpayers 180.00 to 120.00 to keep them there. The sheer economic stupidity would be laughable if it were not for the fact that we are talking about people whose only crime is being poor, and native.

If you live without being a father, you will die without having been a human being.

— Russian Proverb

Love has wings on its shoulders; matrimony has crutches under its arms.

— Russian Proverb

"HOLOCAUST, AMERICAN-STYLE"

Of all the gratuitous bloodshed of native Americans in this country's history, the worst occurred in November of 1864, at the Indian Detention Camp in Sand Creeck, Colorado. Four hundred members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes had gone to the encampment to await a peace confrence with members of the U.S. Department of Indian Affairs, which guaranteed the Indian's saftey, and gave them an American flag as a sign of good faith.

But on 29th of November a famous "Indian Fighter", a colonel in the U.S. army, rode into the village with 900 soldiers and senselessly slaughtered 300 Indian men, women, and children. A Congressional investigation followed the attack, and the carnage was deemed so appalling that the entire affair was hushed up.

From the Mammoth Book
of Trivia By; James Meyers

Poverty is no disgrace, but it is confoundly inconvenient.

-- Sydney Smith

If fortune smiles - who doesn't? If fortune doesn't, - who does?

-- Chinese Proverb

As a friend of mine once said about money, money is always there but the pockets change; it is not the same pockets after a change, and that is all there is to say about money.

-- Gertrude Stein

Knowledge is power, if you know it about the right person.

-- Ethel Watts Mumford.

"GOTCHA!"

These are perilous times in the United States for the jolly sport of entrapment. A few of the agents in the Federal Bureau of Investigation suspected that the Superintendent of Police in Bridgeport Connecticut, might accept a bribe of \$30,000.00, so they sent out an operative, and the operative reported back that, yes, Superintendent Joseph Walsh would meet him in a deserted parking lot at dusk. Hurrah, said the FBI.

So the FBI agents were watching the operative hand over the money when, out of the blue, a swarm of local policemen jumped from the bushes and arrested the operative. No, NO, cried the FBI men, you've got it all wrong - WE'RE supposed to be doing the entrapping. Tell it to the Judge snapped the police; they charged the operative with trying to bribe a public official and carted him away. " I've seen some Mickey Mouse operations in my time," reflected Bridgeport's chief of detectives Anthony Fabrizi, " but this takes the cake."

Incidentally, both the operative and the Superintendent were wired for sound, and the transcripts include a remark by Mr. Walsh that " I trust you, You trust me." Officials must be torn between impounding the tapes as evidence and releasing them as a comedy album.

By; The Globe and Mail
4th of Sept. 1981

"DID YOU KNOW?"

It has been calculated that in the last 3500 years, there have been only 230 years of peace throughout the civilized world.

Al Capone's business card described him as a "secondhand furniture dealer". Capone grossed about 105 million dollars in 1927.

"WASN'T SHOT IN THE HEAD , OFFICER SAYS"

Editor's Note: It sure would be interesting to learn the outcome of this one! Do any of our readers know?

WINNIPEG — An East St. Paul policeman found lying in a ditch from what was thought to be a gunshot wound to the head inflicted by an unknown assailant near here September 24th, has admitted it was a hoax he concocted because of marital problems.

Police Chief John Ireland said yesterday that Constable Gorden Webster, 24, has resigned from the suburb's four man force.

We still don't know why he did it, the chief said. He told me it was because of domestic problems and he wanted sympathy at home, or whatever.

The constable's injuries turned out to be from tumbling into a gravel and not from a gunshot, the chief said.

By; The Globe and Mail

"DID YOU KNOW?"

If all space between atomic particles were eliminated, matter in the resultant state — called the neutron state would be so dense that one cubic inch would weigh about 1,800 million tons.

How much would we weigh? Intresting concept.

INSIGHT

INTO THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY BEHIND THE WALLS

First let me say that I am happy to have been asked to submit an article to Tocsin on behalf of the Spiritual groups here at Collins Bay Institution. I have served time in three area prisons, and can say unequivocally that Collins Bay has the best spiritual atmosphere and widest variety of spiritual programs of any Federal penitentiary in Ontario. I'll do my best to explain my reasons for the above statement later in this article.

Why Religion In Prison?

The purpose (as I see it) for spiritual groups in prison is at least three fold:

- 1.) To meet the spiritual needs of prisoners by providing a basis of instruction in various faiths.
- 2.) To provide the opportunity for prisoners of like faiths to meet, worship, work, and be creative together.
- 3.) By coming together we can share our ideas, feelings, thoughts, and hopefully can be encouraged by drawing spiritual and moral strength from one another.

The spiritual groups at CBI enjoy faithful support from our outside volunteers, who number approximately 130 regulars, as well as a list of about 500 who come in occasionally. Enough could never be said about the importance of volunteers to our groups. Besides providing moral and spiritual support, our outside volunteers have shown the true spirit of Christ by:

- 1.) Opening their homes to inmates on passes, (as well as providing homes for those just released and are endeavoring to establish themselves in the community).
- 2.) Providing places for the families of prisoner's to stay while they visit the area prisons.
- 3.) Finding jobs
- 4.) Supplying transportation for inmates and their family.
- 5.) Visiting the families of inmates, and assisting where possible.

- 6.) Writing letters to the Parole Board, Parole Service, Regional, C.O.'s, etc.....
- 7.) They do hours of leg work, gathering information, and helping to co-ordinate special events.
- 8.) They support just about every other good cause undertaken by the population at CBI from the Olympiad, to Christmas concerts. The list could go on and on, but the above should give you the reader an indication of why we hold our volunteers in such high esteem.

The thing which amazes me is that these folks never seem to get discouraged (although I'm sure at times we have given them reason to be), they seldom show it.

Some of the groups which are active here at Collins Bay are:

- 1.) The Salvation Army
- 2.) The Jewish Group
- 3.) The Full Gospel Group
- 4.) The Native Brotherhood, (who provide spiritual guidance in the form of such events as the Sweat Lodge and Seasonal Celebrations).
- 5.) The Fourth Day Group, (who host the only in-prison Cursillo in Canada. This event allows for 25 to 30 men in the community to spend three days eating, sleeping, praying, and playing with a like number of prisoners in the school and gym area of the prison. This group also hosts the Day Of Awareness, which is a one day seminar here at CBI, attended by many supporters from the Ottawa area. These two events take place twice a year.
- 6.) The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International The Bay Chapter, (who in 1981 hosted Gospelfest/81, which turned out to be the spiritual highlight of the year in the Federal penitentiary system of Canada). Over 200 persons from all over the world, including Australia, England, and Germany were in attendance as about 110 inmates. It was encouraging to see so many people from different faiths get together under one banner and enjoy each other's fellowship.

Special services are also provided by our Chaplains for Eastern Religions also. The above groups meet weekly and in addition, four bible study groups, and two sometimes three Sunday services are performed each week.

What's Happening In 82?

The Full Gospel Business Men's Group, with the assistance of it's head office in Toronto, Mr. Ernie Hollands and 100 Huntley Street, are scheduled to do a live broadcast on January 20th, 1982. Four inmates from Collins Bay will go to Toronto to be interviewed by David Mainse, the host of 100 Huntley Street.

Gospelfest/82 will probably be the result of all the spiritual groups getting together to make it happen. It is quite a sizable undertaking.

The Fourth Day Group will be co-ordinating the Curisillos and the Day Of Awareness.

If I appear to sound proud of what's happening at the Bay, it's because I am! I'm proud of what God has done through his people. I believe that the key to the success of the spiritual groups lies in the fact that the Holy Spirit has been allowed to have full reign in CBI. By this I mean that everyone, from the Warden and AW/ Soc. to our two Chaplains and a dedicated group of inmates have co-operated with the Spirit of God to make things happen here.

We reserve a special respect and admiration for our Chaplains, Father Raymond Tardif, and Reverend Reg Solmes. They are two of the most dedicated hardworking prison Chaplains this writer has ever seen. It would be an honor to do an exposé on these clergymen in a future issue of your Tocsin.

In closing, let me point out at least one important fact that I have gleaned from my experience with God behind these walls. Prison does not need to be a negative, **empty** experience, unless we do nothing with it.

By; Daryl Gellner
Pres. F.G.B.M.F.I.

Editor's Note:

While we are on the subjects of religion, I feel that at this time and place it is only appropriate to include a message from not only the staff of the Tocsin, but the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society as well. We here have seen fit to give our support to the Native Brotherhood of Collins Bay, who are having their problems with the staff of this Institution in obtaining their rights in Freedom Of Religion. The adjoining editorial should, and will explain the matters at hand much better than I can.

"T R I B A L ' W A Y S B R O T H E R H O O D"

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We the members of the Tribal Ways Brotherhood, ask you for your support in assisting us in implementing a campaign to have "The Right For Freedom Of Religion" here within the Correctional Services of Canada.

We ask of each Brotherhood and Sisterhood group to write a letter to the Commissioner of Corrections and the Solicitor General's Dept. stating that we the Native inmates would like to practice our Freedom of Religion in our traditional ways here within the C.S.C.

We would also like to see the following made policy for the Native inmates, and these policies are:

- 1.) To have a sweat lodge remain erect on the Penitentiary grounds, with a snow fence built around this lodge.
- 2.) To have the right to have the following articles in our cells;
 - A) Sweet Grass
 - B) Medicine Pouches
 - C) Eagle Feathers
 - D) Sage
 - E) Ceremonial Ribbon Shirts
 - F) Drums For Native Sacred Group
 - 1) Water Drum 2) Western Drum
 - 3) Shaker 4) Rattles
 - 5) Drum Sticks 6) Shawls - Sisters

- 3.) That our Spiritual Leaders be permitted into the Institution without their medicine bundles being mishandled, as the medicine bundles and other religious materials are prepared and sealed by medicine men and women, and are carried for health protection, and purity reasons.
- 4.) That the Chaplaincy provide through their budget for our Spiritual Leaders to travel to and from their destinations. (HONORARIUM).
- 5.) That the Chaplaincy provide through their budget the materials to construct the Sweat Lodge.
- 6.) That we have the right to practice our Sacred Cerimonies whenever we can arrange them with our Spiritual Leaders.
- 7.) That we make the arrangements for these Sacred Cerimonies through the Chaplaincy of the Institution.
- 8.) That the Spiritual Leaders be allowed into the Institution for individual counseling.

The following is a copy of the Correctional Services of Canada Commissioner's Directive:

COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE

RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

Authority

- 1.) This directive is issued pursuant to subsection 29(3) of the Penitentiary Act.

Revocation

- 2.) Commissioner's Directive No. 223, Dated 1979-12-31 is revoked.

Purpose

- 3.) To assist inmates in adjusting to incarceration and in progressing to-wards successful re-entry into society through spiritual development and growth intergrated with participation in religious programs.

Policy

- 4.) Religious programs shall be provided in ALL INSTITUTIONS . The programs shall include regular worship; spiritual development and counselling; and individual and group training according to the faith professed by the inmate.
- 5.) Appropriate chapel facilities shall be provided.
- 6.) Participation by inmates in religious programs shall be strictly voluntary.
- 7.) Services of ministers of denominations not represented by Institutional Chaplains may be arranged either by contract or on a voluntary basis, as required.
- 8.) Institutional staff shall encourage inmates to participate in religious programs.

References

- 9.) Penitentiary Services Regulations 20. Commissioner. The date on the Commissioner's Directive was dated 1980-05-31, signed by: D.R. Yeowmans

Enclosed is a memorandum dated 1981-01-26, I submitted to reverend R. Tadrif, Roman Catholic Chaplain here at Collins Bay Institution. Also enclosed is a response from Rev. R. Tadrif dated 1981-03-25.

Dear Raymond,

We the Tribal Ways Brotherhood group here at Collins Bay Institution would like to have your full support in having the Sweat Lodge frame remain as it is outside the vicinity of the chapel, we would also appreciate it very much if you can give us your support in having a snow fence built around the Sweat Lodge area.

The Sweat Lodge to the Native people is very sacred and respected throughout the nation, like the church or chapel is respected throughout your nation by the people who attend your religious ceremonies, or services.

In Native tradition the Sweat Lodge is also a church in a traditional way to the Native people, like other religions we pray and give thanks to the same creator above and ask for guidance here on mother earth.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your time and consideration of the above mentioned matter.

In Unity,
G. Ossibence

To: Mr. J. Blackler
A/W (SOC.)

From: Father R. Tardif
R.C. Chaplain

Subject: Native Religion (Sweat Lodge)

It is essential for all peoples whether they be black, white, yellow, Hindu, Christian, Jew, Indian, or Moslem to have the right to Freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Article 18 section 1 of the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states, " This right shall include freedom to have or adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching."

As a priest who has many years of working experience on the inside of various Institutions, I must say that the freedom to pursue religious beliefs is especially important for incarcerated people. To fulfill the various dogma of religious, spiritual beliefs and worship a wide variety of religious regalia is needed. Here in Collins Bay religious and spiritual groups such as the 4 Day Group The Day Of Awareness, the Roman Catholic, and Protestant Chapels, and the Jewish Synagogue rightfully have access to religious regalia.

The Indian people of North America have various customs, spiritual practices, religious ceremonies and ways of life. To be an Indian is a way of life, which has a rich history of tradition, culture, and religion. The Indian people are free spirits who have a special affinity and understanding with the world of nature. In all my years of experience I have seen how incarceration is even more profoundly demoralizing for the proud, free spirited Indian people. To maintain their way of life it is essential that the Native people, who are in prison, are given the same right to have access to religious regalia as the other spiritual groups and religions now have.

After discussions I have had with Ron Nash (Regional Chaplain), Paul Crosby (acting Chaplain General), Norm McDonald and representatives of the Indian peoples in this Institution and on the outside, I am of the strong conviction that the spiritual needs of the Tribal Ways Brotherhood are not being met in this prison. To correct this problem I believe, as do my colleagues, that the Tribal Way's Brotherhood have access to religious regalia in order to pursue their spiritual beliefs. The Tribal Way's Brotherhood has submitted a proposal to Mr. Perry, Mr. Boone, and myself asking for; 1.) an area outside the vicinity of the Chapels to be their sacred grounds, 30ft. X 30ft. which will be a sanctuary for the Indian Brotherhood to pursue their spiritual beliefs. 2.) A Sweat Lodge frame with a fence built around the Sweat Lodge frame also provided. 3.) That the members be permitted to hold a Sweat Lodge ceremony every second Sunday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. without a lunch break, so the members can pursue and reach a level of awareness through their meditation practices.

This matter will be on the agenda for the April 2nd meeting of the Regional Chaplains, which I am sure will be endorsed.

The needs of the Indian people in prison to pursue their spiritual beliefs is a right, and not a privilege. The implementation of this proposal will not turn into a social event, it is purely a religious, spiritual practice. To quote the Hon. Robert Kaplan the Solicitor General, "it is obvious the same attention will have to be paid to the religious sensibilities of minorities in Canada".

For your consideration.

Yours Sincerly,
Father Raymond Tardif
R.C. Chaplain

Ed.

As you can see, I could never come close to explaining the plight of the Native's in such a delicate area as this seems to be at this time in question, but as I said at the beginning of this article, we the staff of the Tocsin are in support of the Tribal Way's Brotherhood in their quest to seek a right, and as Father Tardif so quaintly put it for me, "Not a privilege, but a right".

We hope that our readers will join us in our support for the correction of this "Unjustice" being done to our fellow man, and our fellow inmate. To right the wrongs whenever possible is what we are here for, so lets have lots of letters being sent to the right people, and aid our fellow man.

Dave Laidley
Editor

Learn from the mistakes of others,
You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Martin Vanbee

In order for this campaign to be successful we are asking that you the reader write to all the Native and non-Native Organizations across Canada and request their added support. Our letters of support are to be sent to the following addresses:

Mr. Yeowman
Commissioner of Corrections
Correctional Service of Canada
1 Killeway Place
460 O'Conner Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
K1S 5H3

also to:

Hon. Robert Kaplan M.P.
Solicitor General
Sir Wilfred Laurier Bldg.
340 Laurier Ave. West
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada

In closing, I would like to thank each and everyone of you readers for your support for the Native inmates and our campaign.

"In Unity of Our Ancestors"

Gary Ossibence
Chairman, T.W. Brotherhood

UNITED TOGETHER

With a Gentle embrace,
She come's to my side.
With a caress of my hand,
She must then decide.

To give herself freely,
In body and Soul.
To be my Love,
And make me her goal.

With love and respect,
She will stand at my side.
Through the good and the bad
In which our future shall decide.

We met as two,
But united as one.
With visions of the future,
Come a Daughter or Son

Mike Hamblin

THE PLANET OF MY BIRTH

I would'nt want to live on venus
Nor would I live on Mars
For there they have no television
Or fancy motor cars

Mercury, no, its much to bright
And the hottest of the stars
People there live under ground
And I hear there are no bars

I guess I could move to Jupiter
Then there is Saturn and Neptune too
But there its much too quiet
And the pleasures much to few

If I were to throw a party
Or start up something new
The folks there would get all upset
And probably want to sue

That only leaves Uranus
And Pluto all alone
But they are both so far away
I'd shiver to the bone

So back across our galaxy
Back to the star called Earth
Life may not be perfect
But its the planet of my Birth

David Laidley

"GROWING UP"

I went from sucking bottles
to drinking beer,
From suckers
to cigarettes,

From playing house
to having kids of my own,
From racing carts
to racing cars,

From playing cops and robbers
to doing crimes and time,
From writing on the walls
to writing this here poem.

Robert Brown
South Dakota State Penitentiary

COME WALK AGAIN

Come and walk with me again
As we've done so many hears before
And feel the winds apon our face
As we stroll through nature's door

We can stop and pick the wild pink rose
And smell it's fragrance sweet
Then run through meadows green and full
As the sunshine on us beats

We can steal down to our favorite brook
As we did when but a child
And try and find the treasures there
All hidden amongst the wild

The treasures that I speak of
Are but simple memories
Brought to Life to live again
Once more for you and me

So come and walk with me again
As we've done so many times before
For soon our time will have come and gone
And we can't come back for more.

David Laidley

YOU CAN'T BUY A CURE FOR LONELINESS AT GIMBEL'S

Prison is like a microwave oven...
it destroys you from the inside out.

It's a place...
Where keys become synthetic sleigh bells,
And Baby Magic comes in paper stockings,
And the only New Year's resolution
is not to be here next year.

It's a time capsule.....
Where nothing is real but dreams,
And T.V. takes you to California
When you'd rather be in Philadelphia,

The Christmas box was great, Mom,
but you can't buy a cure for loneliness at Gimbel's.

It's been four years inside now...
Does anybody really know how it feels?

Ding, dong,
Life goes on...
Santa died,
And they were all wrong.

By; Diane Hamill Metzger

PS: Diane is a prisoner in
the State of Louisiana.

"IF GOD WENT ON STRIKE"

It's just a good thing God above
Has never gone on strike
Because he wasn't treated fair
Or things he didn't like.
If he had ever once sat down
And said "Thats it - I'm through,
I've had enough of those on earth
So this is what I'll do".

"I'll give my orders to the sun -
Cut off your heat supply,
And to the moon - give no more light
And the oceans run dry.
Then, just to make it really tough
And, put the pressure on,
Turn off the air and oxygen
Til every breath has gone".

Do you know He'd be justified
If fairness was the game,
For no one has been more abused
Or treated with disdain.
Than God - and yet he carries on
Supplying you and me
With all the favors of his grace
And everything for free!

Men say they want a better deal
And so on strike they go
But what a deal we've given God
To whom everything we owe
We don't care whom we hurt or harm
To gain the things we like
But what a mess we'd all be in
If God should go on strike.

- Author Unknown

"F O O T P R I N T S"

There was a man who had just died, and he was reviewing the footseps he had taken in his life. He looked down and noticed that all over the mountains and difficult places he had traveled, there was one set of footprints, but down the hills and over the plains there was two sets of footprints as if someone had walked by his side.

He turned to Jesus and said "There is somthing I don't understand. Why is it that down the hills and over the easy places you have walked by my side, but here over the rough and difficult places I have walked alone, for I see in those areas there is just one set of footprints"?

Jesus turned to the man and said "It is true that while your life was easy I walked along at your side, But, here where the walking was hard and the going difficult, I realized that, that was the time you needed me the most, and that is why I carried you".

-- Author Unknown

"R E L I G I O N" T O D A Y"

Little Johnny was the son of the local minister. One day his teacher was asking the class what they wanted to be when they grew up.

When it came his turn to answer, he replied "I want to be a minister just like my father."

The teacher was impressed with his determination, and so she asked him why he wanted to be a preacher.

"Well", said the boy thoughtfully, "since I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, I figure it would be more interesting to be the guy who stands up and yells at everyone, than the one who has to sit and listen to it".

"JOKES - JOKES - JOKES - JOKES"

While all this controversy rages about our prison system, some prison officials are still trying to make prison more cheerful (ha,ha,ha) and homey. But I know one Warden who is going too far. He wanted his wife to make slipcovers for the electric chair.

*

The Warden answered his phone and said "No, I'm terribly sorry but you must have the wrong name, there is no one here by that number.

*

I wouldn't worry too much Warden said his exasperated secretary, your wife isn't the only one. To tell you the truth, nobody around here understands you either.

*

It was the shoplifter's ninth offence at the same store. The store President had the crook brought up to his office. "If you don't mind my asking", said the President, "why is it my store you always pick to rob"? "Simple", replied the thief, "You always advertise such terrific bargains".

*

The prisoner faced the court. "Whats the charge"? asked the Judge. "Drunk and Disorderly" answered the Crown Attorney. "How do you plead"? asked the Judge. "Not guilty, your honor. I'm as sober as a Judge". "Guilty!" said the Judge. Next case.

*

CLASSICS

PENALTY OF THE LAW

That all women of whatever age, rank, profession or degree, whether virgin maid or widow, that shall form and after such Act impose upon, seduce and betray into matrimony any of His Majesty's subjects by means of scent, paints, cosmetics, washes, artificial teeth, false hair, Spanish wool, iron stays, hoops, highheeled shoes or bolstered hips, shall incur the penalty of the law now in force against withcraft and like misdemeanours, and that the marriage upon conviction shall stand null and void.

FROM AN ACT OF THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT-1770

SO LET IT BE DONE

FROM AN ADDRESS TO THE COURT, AFTER BEING
SENTENCED TO DEATH-NOVEMBER 2, 1859
JOHN BROWN

It is unjust that I should suffer such a penalty. Had I interfered in the manner which I admit, and which I admit has been fairly proved (for I admire the truthfulness and candor of the greater portion of the witnesses who have testified in this case)-had I so interfered in behalf of the rich, the powerful, the intelligent, the so-called great, or in behalf of any of their friends-either father, mother, brother, sister, wife, or children, or any of that class-and suffered, and sacrificed what I have in this interference, it would have been all right; and every man in this court would have deemed it an act worthy of reward rather than punishment.

This court acknowledges, as I suppose, the validity of the law of God, I see a book kissed here which I suppose to be the Bible, or at least the New Testament. That teaches me that all things whatsoever I would that men should do to me I should do even so to them. It teaches me, further, to "remember them that are in bonds as bound with them." I endeavored to act up to that instruction. I say I am yet too young to understand that God is any respecter of persons. I believe that to have interfered as I have done-as I have always freely admitted I have done-in behalf of His despised poor was not wrong, but right. Now, if it is deemed necessary that I should for-

feit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments—I submit; so let it be done!

DOWN LIFE'S HIGHWAY

Hand in hand, together,
Traveling life's highway;
We find the journey pleasant,
Sharing day by day.

Sharing the sweet and the bitter,
Sharing the pleasure and pain,
We take the sun with the shadow,
Laugh at the silver rain.

Laugh at the storms and brave them,
Seeking to understand;
We find the fruit of life sweeter,
Traveling hand in hand.

Emily Carey Alleman

STATEMENT TO THE 49 NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS ASSEMBLED WITH HIM FOR DINNER-APRIL 29, 1962 PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House—with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone.

THE ONE AND ONLY

"SUBSCRIPTIONS TO INCREASE IN PRICE"

Due to circumstances beyond our control, namely the Government's untimely and insistent raise in the postal rates of which I am sure you are all well aware of by now, we here at the Tocsin regret to inform our subscribers and any future potential subscriber that as of January 12th, 1982 we are forced to increase the cost of a years subscription, or six issues from it's present rate of \$5.00 per anum to \$8.00 per anum, so that we may meet with the ever rising tide of inflation.

We realize that this is a hefty hike in rates, but as most people know, our news booklet is run entirely on the money we receive from our subscribers. We are not a profit seeking organization, all monies received from our subscribers is funneled directly back into the production costs of the Tocsin through it's founder's, the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society.

The views expressed in this and any other edition of the Tocsin, are those of the contributing authors with the support of the Tocsin staff members. They are not the view's of the Canadian Correctional Service, nor necessarily those of other inmates. We here at the Tocsin take a non - violent stand for Prison Reform. It is our purpose to bring about as many changes, as is our power through our many publications. With your support we can get the job done that much sooner.

For those subscribers whose subscription's are about to expire, please send for your new subscription as soon as feasible, to avoid any delay in the delivery of your next issue of the "TOCSIN". Thank you.

Dave Laidley
Editor

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Due to circumstances beyond our control, namely the
Government's unduly and insistent raise in the postal
rates of which we are sure you are all well aware of by
now, we have at the Toronto regret to inform our subscribers
and any future potential subscribers that as of January
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To:

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